ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PERFORMING A PATTERN MATCH SEARCH FOR TEXT STRINGS

A method and system for performing a pattern match search for a data string having a plurality of characters separated by delimiters. In accordance with the method of the present invention a search key is constructed by generating a full match search increment comprising the binary representation of a data string element, wherein the data string element comprises all characters between a pair of delimiters. The search key is completed by concatenating a pattern search prefix to the full match search increment, wherein the pattern search prefix is a cumulative pattern search result of each previous full match search increment. A full match search is then performed within a lookup table utilizing the search key. In response to finding a matching pattern within the lookup table, the process returns to constructing a next search key. In response to not finding a matching pattern, the previous full match search result is utilized to process the data string.